

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed October 25, 2005, in which claims 20-23 and 36 are allowed. Claims 1-4, 9, 10, 12, 14, 26-29, 33, 34, 37, 38 and 41 are rejected. Claims 5-8, 11, 13, 15-19, 24, 25, 30-32, 35, 39, 40 and 42-48 are objected to.

In this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 6-8, 11, 13, 15, 24, 26-27, 29, 31, 32, 36-37, 40-41, 43, 45, and 47-48 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 2, 5, 28, 30, 39 and 42 have been canceled without prejudice.

Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the applicability of the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Claim Objections

Applicants have amended claim 24 in response to the objection raised by the Examiner.

Allowable Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 20-23 and 36 are allowable. Applicants further thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 5-8, 11, 13, 15-19, 30-32, 35, 39, 40, and 10, 25 and 30 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten to include all the limitations of the claims from which they each originally depended.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 5 and intervening claim 2. Thus independent claim 1, and associated dependent claims 3, 4, 6-25 are in condition of allowance.

Independent claim 27 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 30 and intervening claim 28. Thus independent claim 27, and associated dependent claims 29, 31-35 are in condition of allowance.

Independent claim 37 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 39. Thus independent claim 37, and associated dependent claims 38 and 40 are in condition of allowance.

Independent claim 41 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 42. Thus independent claim 41, and associated dependent claims 43-48 are in condition of allowance.

Independent claims 26 and 36 have been amended to include certain limitations of claim 39. Thus independent claims 26 and 36 are in condition of allowance.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Lester Vincent at (408) 720-8300.

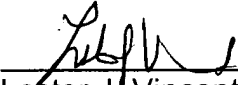
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
& ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: March 24, 2006



Lester J. Vincent
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 31,460

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300